Visits to ISE Mission Partners: The Federal Bureau of Investigations' Criminal Justice Information Services

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I just returned home from Clarksburg, West Virginia where I was visiting one of the pillars of our nation?s efforts to counter violent extremism and protect our communities. The Federal Bureau of Investigation?s (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services [1] (CJIS) Division shares timely and relevant criminal justice and identity information to law enforcement, criminal justice, and civilian agencies concerning individuals, stolen property, criminal organizations, and activities.

CJIS is a Mission Partner [2] of the Information Sharing Environment [3]. They provide a core ISE capability [4] for the information sharing and access mission. They serve millions of sworn law enforcement officers, public safety officials, federal screening and other officials, and other public and private sector users to provide law enforcement and identity information [5] in a timely and convenient way. During our visit, we discussed efforts to accelerate inter-operability and single sign-on more broadly across the ISE frontline by interconnecting the various Federally sponsored or operated Sensitive But Unclassified [6] (SBU) networks such as Department of Homeland Security?s Homeland Security Information Network, the State-owned, Department of Justice grant-funded RISSNet, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence?s Intelink-U. It?s a project we?ve been working on for the last few months and its showing promise.

I was impressed with the CJIS team ? they are doing great work. You can read more about CJIS on their web site [1] or you can read our recently released 2010 ISE Annual Report [7] to learn about some of their recent successes that are contributing to the ISE. The Annual Report reflects on the accomplishments and efforts of the terrorism and homeland security information sharing and access community and broadly inventories initiatives that, taken together, should be seen as the foundational steps of building the ISE. I encourage you to review the report and share your reactions and ideas for shaping the ISE, via email to us or by contributing to our continuing online discussion about SBU Network Interoperability [6].

I plan to visit other ISE mission partners? field operations in the next few weeks and months. I will be back to share my thoughts from those trips.

We also want to engage with you on ways to improve the ISE. It?s my hope that this venue will allow ISE mission partners [2] the frontline, advocacy groups, interested citizens, and other stakeholders to engage in an open dialogue on how to effectively share, discover, fuse and enable timely action on information to support the men and women of the frontline that fight terrorism and protect the American people. Please visit the ISE Blog often for perspectives from our mission partners and look for upcoming dialogues on ways to improve the ISE

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